

Clues Sought in Slaying of Girl

JAN 30 1973

Regional Park rangers were seeking clues today in the mysterious slaying of Donna Rae Bramell, 22, of Castro Valley, the daughter of an Oakland fire department captain.

Miss Bramell's body was found some 20 feet down an embankment near a parking area at the Marciel Gate entrance to Chabot Regional Park Sunday and was identified yesterday by her father, Charles Bramell, of 18442 Hastings Way, Castro Valley.

She had been shot at least once with a weapon of unknown caliber, rangers said.

Her father, a 24-year veteran of the Oakland fire department, said today he was at a loss to account for Miss Bramell's murder, which apparently occurred late Saturday or early Sunday.

Bramell said she often walked alone through her neighborhood, since her car was out of repair, and left the family home Saturday night



DONNA RAE BRAMELL
Body in park

without saying where she was going.

He described her as "very good Catholic girl" who at-

tended parochial schools in the area and then was graduated from Castro Valley High School four years ago. She had been unemployed since losing a job as a secretary with the Singer Co. in San Leandro 18 months ago, he said.

He said she sometimes visited a night spot near Crow Canyon Road in eastern Castro Valley but doubted that she went there Saturday night for lack of transportation. She had no steady boyfriend, he said.

A spokesman for the park district said rangers were checking through a list of Miss Bramell's friends today seeking leads.

The investigation was being headed by ranger detective Bruce Johnson, the spokesman said.

No weapon has been found, the spokesman said, and it was unknown where Miss Bramell had been before being shot — or even whether she had been shot at the scene where her body was found, or elsewhere.

"She could have been killed on the scene or she could have been killed elsewhere," the spokesman said. The body bore some markings which might indicate that it had been dragged, he said.

An autopsy yesterday revealed that she had been shot "more than once" in the chest, a coroner's office spokesman said.

She was fully clothed except for one shoe, the spokesman said, and "the indications are that she was shot in another location and moved to the scene."

Rites Tomorrow For Donna Bramell

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Funeral services for Donna Rae Bramell, 22, of Castro Valley, who was found shot to death Sunday near the Marciel entrance to Chabot Regional Park, will be held at 9 a.m. tomorrow at the Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Castro Valley.

A Rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. today at the Sorensen Brothers funeral chapel 1140 B St., Hayward. The funeral tomorrow will be a Mass of the Resurrection.

Meanwhile, East Bay Regional Park rangers were still seeking clues today in her slaying late Saturday or early Sunday.

Rangers were questioning acquaintances and attempting to determine Miss Bramell's movements the night she was killed, a park district spokesman said. Miss Bramell left her home at 18442 Hastings Way, Castro Valley, without telling her family where she was going.

Her body was found Sunday some 20 feet down an embankment near a parking lot at the Marciel entrance to the park. She had been shot several times, investigators said.

Miss Bramell was born in Oakland and was graduated from Castro Valley High School four years ago. She was laid off as a secretary for the Singer Co. in San Leandro 18 months ago and since then had been unemployed.

She is survived by her father, Charles Bramell, a captain with the Oakland fire department and her mother Alice, of the family home in Castro Valley; a step-brother Robert L. Robinson of Puyal-

up, Wash.; four brothers, Charles D. Bramell III, Paul Lee Bramell, and James P. Bramell, all of the family home, and Thomas D. Bramell of Livermore; a sister, Katherine L. Brammell of the family home; and her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Rodrigues of Oakland.

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Woman's Body Believed Moved In Slaying

The Alameda County coroner's office said yesterday that Donna Rae Bramell, found shot to death Sunday afternoon near the Marciel entrance to Chabot Regional Park, was apparently killed early that morning somewhere else.

Miss Bramell, 22, of 18442 Hastings Way, Castro Valley,

died of "shock and hemorrhage due to gunshot wounds," the coroner's office said. The East Bay Regional Park District's Department of Public Safety said she was shot twice in the chest.

Lt. A. P. Souza of the public safety department said her body bore bruises on her back,

which could mean it was dragged to the spot 20 feet down an embankment where it was found. The coroner's office said she was not sexually molested.

Souza said his department was working on some leads, but that nothing conclusive had been determined.